What is claimed is:

1. In a material for a heat-resistant protection layer and constituting one of a plurality of components of a phase variation type recording medium , at least one compound having a thermal conductivity of higher than 10 W/m.deg inclusive in a bulk state is contained.

2. A material as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one compound is selected from a group consisting of zinc oxide, aluminum oxide, titanium oxide, magnesium oxide, yttrium oxide, gallium nitride, silicon nitride, aluminum nitride, and silicon carbide.

3. A material as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one compound comprises a combination of zinc oxide, aluminum oxide, titanium oxide, magnesium oxide, yttrium oxide, gallium nitride, silicon nitride, aluminum nitride and/or silicon carbide, and silicon oxide.

4. In an optical data recording medium comprising a substrate and a heat-resistant protection layer, a recording layer and a reflective heat radiation layer sequentially stacked on said substrate, said recording layer mainly consists of Ag, In, Sb and Te, and said heat-resistant protection layer contains at least one compound having a thermal conductivity of higher than 10 W/m.deg inclusive in a bulk state.

5. A material as claimed in claim 4, wherein said at least

one compound is selected from a group consisting of zinc oxide, aluminum oxide, titanium oxide, magnesium oxide, yttrium oxide, gallium nitride, silicon nitride, aluminum nitride, and silicon carbide.

6. A material as claimed in claim 4, wherein said at least one compound comprises a combination of zinc oxide, aluminum oxide, titanium oxide, magnesium oxide, yttrium oxide, gallium nitride, silicon nitride, aluminum nitride and/or silicon carbide, and silicon oxide.